

## Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

W. R. FARRINGTON, EDITOR.

FRIDAY — — — — — APRIL 10 1896

Among the figures published Thursday there may have seemed some very strange anomalies. C. Brewer & Co., who return over one million of assets, only appear to pay a tax of one hundred and ninety-three dollars. Of course, the assets are made up of corporation shares, which are already taxed under the corporations. The same is true of Davies & Co., Castle & Cooke and other large firms. The figures are apt to mislead the average reader.

The conclusions drawn by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer in connection with our tariff laws simply prove that the editorial writer doesn't know what he is talking about. The writer seems to have gathered a few facts, a larger quantity of lies, and winds up by making a very poor guess at the general situation. The great barrier which faces proper tariff revision in this country is the readiness of certain cliques to grossly misrepresent any honest effort to improve upon our present conditions. None are so ignorant as those who refuse to learn, and none so detrimental to a community as those who attempt to defeat progress by jumping at conclusions in order to feather their own nests.

Now that the time of the adjournment of the United States Congress is assuming definite shape, the people of Hawaii will watch with renewed interest the progress of the cable bill. The arrival of a second company upon the scene has added a new complication, which may jeopardize the success of both companies in obtaining financial assistance from the United States. It seems clear that the Foreign Relations Committee in both the House and Senate favors the general scheme of laying an American cable to Hawaii, but it remains an open question whether the ardor of the opposition companies, together with the unnatural economy that generally precedes a presidential election, will not result in the measure being put over to the next session of Congress. Private advices state that the cable bill was made the "special order" for the first of April in the House, thus bringing it up for decisive action from six to eight weeks previous to adjournment. It now remains to be seen whether the advocates of the bill can succeed in accelerating the motion of the legislative wheels sufficiently to gain an appropriation from the present Congress.

The New York Legislature has at last succeeded in passing the Raines liquor bill, which substitutes a liquor tax for the usual liquor license. The new law wipes out the local excise board and places the control of the liquor traffic in the hands of State officials. Any person may conduct a saloon who will pay an annual tax ranging from \$800 for the city of New York to \$100 for communities of less than 1,200 inhabitants. One-third the revenue from the State Liquor Department goes to the State, and two-thirds to the municipality in which it is collected. Local option is granted to towns, but not to cities, and no new saloon is to be established within 200 feet of a dwelling house without the consent of two-thirds of the property owners within the distance named. The law has been opposed most strenuously, and has caused several Republican members to bolt the party caucuses. It may be regarded, however, as a step toward prohibition, provided the law is enforced. In New York City it increases the yearly expense of each liquor dealer about \$500, and will result in cutting down the number of places where liquor is sold. It also places a responsibility on the property holders, and will serve to show up in the proper light certain property holders who are loudly for temperance, and rent their buildings to liquor dealers. Even Neal Dow, the father of the prohibition movement, came within the category at one time, and it is fair to suppose that New York is not without its representatives of a class who do not care to sacrifice financial interest to a question of moral principle.

## CUBAN SUGAR CROP.

Although General Weyler made bold statements as to his ability to quell the Cuban rebellion sufficiently to allow the Cuban sugar planters to put a good proportion of their usual product on the market, up to the present time he has made a signal failure, and the amount of the estimated shortage may be counted upon, which means continued good prices for Hawaiian sugar. The Philadelphia Ledger sizes up the situation as follows:

"What appears to be a carefully compiled review of the Cuban sugar crop

shows that the total amount made up to March 1, at which time the grinding season was half over, was 63,288 tons, as against 319,326 tons at the same time last year. Doubling this for the whole season would give 126,576 tons, while last year the estimated yield was 1,000,000 tons, showing a decrease of 87.3 per cent. Even this scanty percentage will not be realized unless Gomez can be driven out of the sugar producing districts, of which he now occupies four-fifths, as he has given orders that no sugar shall be made. The statement is made with a degree of circumstantiality that argues thorough knowledge of the situation, and it is at least partially confirmed by the action of the Sugar Trust, reported last week, in buying up vast quantities of sugar in Germany, Egypt and elsewhere. It is the most convincing argument for the success of the revolution that could be had, for it shows that the insurgents control practically all the revenue producing sections of the island."

## UNITED STATES CONTRACT LAW.

A recent interpretation of the United States alien contract law, made by Commissioner General Stump of the Immigration Bureau and endorsed by the Secretary of the Treasury, will be received with no little interest in this country, where the contract law stands, in some minds, as a disagreeable barrier in working out the annexation problem.

Several English mechanics were detained in New York on the ground that they were contract laborers. Investigation showed that they were sent to the country to set up cotton machinery made by parties in England and sold to cotton mill men in New England. The machinery is new to the United States, and required men particularly acquainted with its construction to set it up and put it in operation. The Commissioner of Immigration finally allowed the English contract mechanics to land and proceed with their work on condition that the original contracts be abrogated and new ones issued, particularly setting forth the machinery to be erected, to whom sold, and strictly limiting the work to be done. The men also agreed to leave the country immediately on completion of the work contracted for.

This interpretation of the contract law compares favorably in some of its essential points with the conditions under which the Chinese plantation laborers are now coming to this country. It would require a very slight change in our present laws to bring plantation laborers to Hawaii under the same conditions which the English mechanics were allowed to go to the New England States. The decision has at least shown that the United States contract law is elastic and may be stretched to fit existing conditions.

## LAW AGAINST GAMBLING.

The arguments against the proposed amendments to the gambling law presented in the House of Representatives on Wednesday have been rung with various changes in every State in the American Union, and every other place where an attempt has been made to put an end to public gambling at horse races and public contests of any kind, where the final outcome is attended with a degree of chance. It is the same old plea. In the first place it is said that horse racing will die out if betting is stopped, and secondly that a prohibitory law cannot be enforced if passed.

There has yet to be cited an instance where horse racing as a source of public amusement has not been accompanied by pool selling and outside betting, and the same can be said of every other sport known. Some years ago the State of Massachusetts passed strict laws against pool selling. Soon after the enactment of this law the breeding of blooded horses received an impetus, and with the extension came the construction of race tracks throughout the State and the inauguration of racing meets. At the outset the general public attended the meetings and became deeply interested in the display of good horse-flesh and honest trials of speed. Soon betting crept in; pool sellers and their followers increased, and honest racing disappeared; the people attracted by trials of speed gradually withdrew from the races, the crowds in the grand stands decreased, and the pool sellers and "bookies" roped in the majority of the patrons. The interest in the individual races centered, not upon superiority of the horses but upon the manipulations of the owners, the drivers and the pool box.

In 1893 the people of Springfield waked up to the fact that they were harboring a custom that was not only degrading horse racing, but also exerting a pernicious influence upon the young men of the city. The old law was brought up and the police reminded of their duty. As a result the pool rooms of Springfield were shut up, and the reform instituted spread through the various communities of the State, and even to Connecticut, where similar laws and an equal lack of enforcement ob-

tained. Immediately the laws were enforced the horsemen and the "bookies" throughout the State set up a howl that horse racing would be killed and the interests of the stock farms seriously damaged. But the reformers stood by their colors, pool selling and public gambling were reduced to a minimum, and we have yet to learn of the stock farm that has made an assignment in consequence of the new order of affairs. The "sports" have suffered, as they can no longer make money by bleeding young neophytes in a gambling school that has ruined more than one young life. With all the reforms, however, it will be many a year before horse racing in New England is raised to the standard from which it dropped when the public began to give way to the gambler.

Hawaii is today in a position to prevent public gambling at horse races and athletic contests. If our lawmakers delay passing strict laws simply because it is claimed that the law cannot be enforced, they are putting the young men of the country in a dangerous position, to say nothing of jeopardizing honest sports. Gambling is inherent with the average human being, and the average boy will wager anything from a toothpick to a tin whistle before he is old enough to go to school; but it is the duty of the old members of the community to place all the safeguards possible around the rising generation, and wipe out the evil by example as well as precept. Given a legal backing, the people of this country can stop gambling in its most flagrant forms.

## THE TAX PROBLEM.

The question of taxation is one of vital importance to every civilized community. It is also one of the questions which causes more friction than any other branch of governmental control. In order to keep up a government and administer it properly you must have cash. We want roads, we want schools, we want better landings, we want our postal system kept up—we want a hundred and one things, and we can only have them if we have the cash. Agreeing, as all classes do, upon the necessity, all are willing to pay their share, but the difficulty and friction come in when the allotment of the share is made.

A very old and crude form of taxation is the poll tax. Every male of a certain age pays his dollar, or whatever sum may be settled upon, no matter what his income, be it large or be it small. Then there are other specific personal taxes, which in this country amount to \$5 per head. Further than this, we have a property tax, and, of course, duties, licenses and excise.

The needs of the Government have brought about the necessity of increasing the revenue, and we are now face to face with the necessity of revising our tax list. Hence the very burning tax bill which is now before the Senate, the House of Representatives and the country at large. The subject is one of vital importance to every member of the community, be he rich or be he poor.

It is hardly necessary to point out how unjust the personal tax of \$5 a head is, when compared with the taxes upon property. We will say a laborer gets \$16 per month; that is a total income of \$192 per annum; he has to pay \$5 tax, or at the rate of 2.6 per cent, upon his gross earnings. Were so heavy a tax put upon property, there would be the wildest and most melancholy wail from one end of the islands to the other. The tax upon corporation and other property is 1 per cent. Make the property owner pay at the same rate as the poor man, and even under the present method of assessment the income of the Government from this would be more than two and a half times more.

The vital point in the whole matter rests upon a better method of getting at the values of property.

The tables published Thursday afford much information in looking up this point. We have a list of thirty-seven sugar corporations, with a nominal capital of over \$27,000,000 and a paid-up capital of \$26,000,000—we avoid the odd figures and speak in round numbers—which pay in taxes a little over \$100,000.

The sworn returns of the values of the sugar corporations to the Minister of the Interior are \$15,674,668. The tax upon that figure should have been \$156,746. Why wasn't it? The old tax law is in fault, and it needs very careful consideration of the new tax law to see that such anomalies should not be allowed to exist.

It is a case of make haste slowly. The very utmost care should be taken over the bill, and there should be no hasty action. It should be argued fully and carefully, and plenty of time should be given for the public to understand the arguments and to give their views.

## WASHINGTON COMMENT.

The attention of the editor of this paper has been called to certain remarks made to the Executive by American Minister Willis regarding an editorial comment from the Washington

Star, copied in our editorial columns. Among other things, we understand Minister Willis stated that the publications of the Hawaiian Gazette Company were controlled, and the policy of the Advertiser dictated by an employee of the Government. Furthermore, that the Advertiser was looked upon as the official organ of the Republic and that its utterances were regarded as voicing the sentiments and were possibly made under the dictation of members of the Executive.

Such statements coming from a public official are decidedly novel, to say the least. "Current comment" spreads abroad a great many stories regarding the Advertiser, which are as far from the truth as it is possible for them to be, and we deeply regret that the American representative should have been so completely misled by rumors that fill the air of Honolulu; rumors brought into existence by gossiping tongues and having no firmer foundation than the medium by which they are circulated—irresponsible political wind agents. We have made the statement that the policy is dictated solely and absolutely by the editor all the way from one to seventeen times, but we do not expect these statements will put an end to rumors. Only a cable and a change of climate will accomplish that.

For the benefit of any and all officials having to do with this Government, we will reiterate that the policy of the Advertiser is absolutely in the hands of the editor, whom the courts, at least, hold solely responsible for any and all statements in the local and editorial columns. No member of the Executive, no member of the Government dictates, outlines or is in any way responsible for the editorial statements regarding diplomats, Government officials or private citizens. The Advertiser supports the Government, but it is bound only by the ties of honest government, and so long as honest government continues the Advertiser will continue to uphold the men now keeping guard over the national destinies. The hands that guide the nation, however, do not nor have they ever attempted to guide the Advertiser.

Regarding the editorial comment taken from the Washington Star, we would call attention to the fact that the article was published without comment and was simply reflecting the opinion of a paper published in the capital of the United States, the seat of the Government which the American Minister represents. It was an editorial comment taken from a paper as close to the political throne as any we know of. It was an American review of the situation, given to the people of Hawaii for what it was worth. We regret most sincerely that the leading newspaper of the United States capital—the seat of the Government from which all United States officers take their orders—should feel called upon to make such statements. We regret many incidents that have occurred in this country upon which American opinions have been variously expressed and while the editor of this paper realizes his responsibility in connection with the affairs of this country, he cannot conscientiously take upon himself the task of answering for all that is said and done by the American public and the American newspapers.

Minister Willis leaves today for his vacation, and whatever the length of that vacation may be, we sincerely hope that Minister Willis will fully recover his health, which has undoubtedly been sadly broken by the nervous strain consequent to the trying position in which he has been placed during the past few years.

The Washington Star speaks of the possibilities of Minister Willis' return to Honolulu, after his vacation, as follows: "It is suggested that if Mr. Willis does not care to return to duty, the American legation at Honolulu, except for the presence of a Consul-General, may be closed for the remainder of Mr. Cleveland's term in the White House. No difficulty would result from that. The value of an American Minister in any country depends entirely upon his representative character. Mr. Willis has no value whatever at Honolulu. If anything he is a standing affront to people for whom the people of this country feel a warm attachment. Why, then, should he stay there? Or, leaving on a visit home, return there? The people of Hawaii will understand that the closing of the doors of the legation now will be followed by their reopening a year hence, by a Minister who really represents the United States."

A quarterly dividend is now due and payable to the stockholders of Wilders Steamship Co.

## WATERHOUSE ESTATE.

Important Change of Management In Old House.

E. W. JORDAN BUYS NO. 10.

Came Here 28 Years Ago—Now Manager of the Fort-Street Store. Splendid Business Qualifications. Floriculturist of Note—Rare Plants.

It was rumored on the street yesterday that E. W. Jordan, for some years manager of "No. 10 Store," had purchased this branch of the business from the Waterhouse estate and would con-



E. W. JORDAN.

tinue to conduct it as the leading dry goods establishment in Honolulu.

Mr. Jordan came here in 1868 and engaged at once with John Thomas Waterhouse in the Queen street store. Eighteen months afterward he was made manager of the Fort street store and has held that position ever since.

He has been to England once during that time and then for only six months. Mr. Jordan's mercantile experience with the Waterhouse family fits him for the responsible position of proprietor of the vast business which he has so long managed. That he will continue in the successful way of the former proprietors will not be doubted by anyone who knows Mr. Jordan.

He is an enthusiastic floriculturist, and in his extensive grounds on Wylie street some of the rarest tropical plants will be found.

## BY AUTHORITY.

MR. J. K. KAHOOPUI has this day been appointed Pound Master for the Government Pound at Kaupo, Hana, Maui, vice Wm. Coates, resigned.

J. A. KING,  
Minister of the Interior.  
Interior Office, April 2, 1896.  
1747-3t

## Sale of Public Lands and Leases.

On THURSDAY, April 23d, 1896, at 12 o'clock noon, at front entrance of Judiciary Building, Honolulu, will be sold the following lands and leases in Puna, Hawaii:

1. Land of Ililihoa, Puna, containing 75.32 acres. Upset price.....\$301.28  
Survey charges..... 70.00  
\$371.28

2. Lot at Oneloa, 14.78 acres. Upset price, \$22.17.

Terms: Cash in U. S. Gold Coin.

3. Lease of lot land at Waiakolea, Puna, containing 18 acres, more or less, with all fish and shrimp ponds upon the same. Reserving across the land right of way to Government Pound. Term of lease, 15 years. Upset rental, \$40.00 per year, payable annually in advance.

Plans of above lands may be seen and further particulars obtained at office of the Agent of Public Lands, Honolulu, or of E. D. Baldwin, Sub-Agent, Hilo.

J. F. BROWN,  
Agent of Public Lands.  
Public Lands Office, Honolulu, March 24th, 1896.  
1747-5t

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"C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.:  
"Gentlemen:—Last winter, my two girls, boy and wife were taken ill. The doctors said they were poisoned by drinking water from an old well. The two girls failed to rally under the doctor's treatment. Eva, aged four years, fell away so she only weighed 18 lbs.; I coughed all the time and was helpless. Physicians said

She Had Consumption.  
Lily, aged eight years, was nearly as bad as Eva but being older and stronger, held up a little better. We gave them both Hood's Sarsaparilla, which built up their strength and health finely so that they became fat and plump, lively and happy. My son Carroll was in a bad condition, having a bad cough and very weak. He was obliged to lie down most of the time. One bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla put him on his feet and restored perfect health. I believe Hood's Sarsaparilla saved my children's lives."  
JOHN T. BROWN, Stowe, Vermont.

## Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills, Biliousness, Jaundice, Indigestion, Sick Headache.

HOBSON DRUG COMPANY,  
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## FILTERS.

The report of the executive officer of the Board of Health relative to the condition of the Nuuanu reservoirs is suggestive of something dangerous to health. It also suggests filters, good filters, something that will effectually separate the water from mud and filth.

Nature has done much toward providing the people with necessities; it has also done a little toward securing for the people, luxuries. In some localities a filter is a luxury, in others, Honolulu for instance, it is a necessity, but the natural filters that are sold have been much improved by ingenuity of man.

Charcoal is admitted to be the most thorough purifying agent known, consequently Messrs. Slack & Brownlow selected it for use in the manufacture of their filters. And we are the agents for this particular brand of filter in Honolulu, a sufficient guarantee, by the way, of the character of the article.

The latest invoices show three different styles of the S. & B. Filters and these we have in stock, just opened them, in fact, and we want your attention.

No. 1, (we will call it No. 1) is fitted with a movable plate, so that when necessary, the carbon may be taken out and washed. It has also a movable lining allowing access to every part of the interior, which may be kept perfectly sweet and clean.

No. 2 and 3 are provided with the same conveniences for cleaning as the other, but they have the important addition that every part, including the pure water chamber, is accessible, giving them all the requirements of a "Perfect Filter."

The price of the S. & B. filter is below the others. You should have one, because it is a necessity.

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